

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0164] beginning at page 34, with the following rewritten paragraphs:

The strains described above are ideally suited for the preparation of a kit. Such a kit may comprise a carrier compartmentalized to receive one or more containers such as vials, tubes, and the like, each of the containers comprising one of the separate elements to be used in the method. The container may comprise a strain of bacteria capable of detecting the presence of an autoinducer. Preferably, the bacterial strain is capable of providing a signal in the presence of autoinducer-2. More preferably, the desired strain lacks the ability to detect AI-1 (sensor 1-) and to synthesize AI-2. Thus, the kit may provide a luxN- and luxs- strain of *V. harveyi* designated MM32 for identifying autoinducer-2 as well as inhibitors of autoinducer-2 and the quorum-sensing pathway.

*Vibrio harveyi*, BB170 is deposited in the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) under ATCC No. BAA-1117. *Vibrio harveyi*, MM32 is deposited in the ATCC under ATCC No. BAA-1121. The ATCC is located at 10801 University Blvd., Manassas Virginia 20110-2209. The deposits were received by the ATCC on December 30, 2004.